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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

13

Application Number

10/790,027

Filing Date

March 2, 2004

First Named Inventor

John A. Giordano

Art Unit

1616

Examiner Name

F. I. Choi

Attorney Docket Number

48508-00014

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Preston Gates Ellis & Rouvelas Meeds LLP

Signature

[Handwritten Signature]

Printed name

Don J. Pelto

Date

December 21, 2006

Reg. No.

33,754

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	10/790,027	Confirmation No. 9737
Applicant	John A. Giordano et al.,	
Filed	March 2, 2004	
TC/Art Unit	1616	
Examiner	F.I. Choi	
Docket No.	48508-00014	
Customer No.	23767	

SUPPLEMENTAL REPLY & AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Sir:

In reply to the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Actions mailed May 22, 2006 and October 17, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks. This Response is supplemental to the Replies filed September 21, 2006 and November 17, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.